

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 5-2, Fall 2017
Jan 14, 2018

Members Present:

Reece Rosenthal (presiding), Stefano Romano (clerk), Mark Cantu, Hector Chaires, Jacob Reinhart, Grant Wilkinson

Ombuds: Matt Nobles

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Students A and B of unauthorized collaboration for a lower level COMP course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Student B's written statement
- Course syllabus
- Student A and B's full code
- Full code comparison
- Professor clarification on comparison statistic
- Project description
- Random class code samples
- Assignment reference code
- Student emails
- Class piazza posts
- Student A's written supplemental statement
- Professor supplemental accusation material
- Assignment solution code

Plea:

Student A pled "Not In Violation." Student B pled "Not In Violation."

Testimony:

Student A started by stating that he did not commit an Honor Code violation, and only used authorized collaboration for this homework with Student B. Student A then proceeded to discuss his thought process on the assignment, and discussed in particular the similar parts of code and how he created his code. He then disputed the similarities in submittal times between both students.

Student B stated that he did not commit an Honor Code violation, and that his code is very similar to the code of every other student in the class, as there was little freedom with regard to coding style and coding logic on this assignment. Student B then stated

that he did discuss the assignment with Student A, but within the guidelines set forth in the course's Honor Code policies.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence did not support that a violation occurred because the students' code could have their similarities as a result of allowed collaboration.

Vote #2: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that a violation occurred?

Yes: 1

No: 5

Abstentions: 0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Students A and B "Not In Violation" of the Honor Code.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 2 hours, 30 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Stefano Romano
Clerk